IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MITSUI et al Atty. Ref.: 330-270; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unknown Group:

Filed: October 21, 2003 Examiner:

For: PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING HALF-TONE PHASE SHIFTING MASK

BLANKS

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October 21, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: